Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NEAE-00 DHA-02 TRSE-00 PRS-01 L-03 H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /057 W

-----131401Z 054323 /42

P R 131317Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1571
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

CONFIDENTIAL RABAT 1990

3.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, EU, AG, LY, SA, MO, SY, IZ

SUBJECT: BLACK AMERICANDELEGATION TOUR OF ARAB COUNTRIES

REF: A) KUWAIT 1779 (NOTAL), B) TRIPOLI 454 (NOTAL)

- 1. DURING APRIL 11 CALL, FONMIN LARAKI READ TO ME PRESS DISPATCHES FROM ALGERIAN PRESS SERVICE ON THE VISIT OF A BLACK AMERICAN DELEGATION TO ALGIERS.
- 2. LARAKI WAS AGITATED ABOUT THE GROUP'S REPORTED ANTI-MOROCCAN DECLARATION, AND DEPRECATED ITS ONE-SIDED APPROACH TO THE SAHARA QUESTION. HE WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT (A) OFFICIAL AMERICANS MEETING THE "SO-CALLED" FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER OF THE SAHRAOUI DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC, WHICH US DOES NOT RECOGNIZE, (B) THE UNSUBSTANTIATED ACCOUNTS OF MOROCCAN GENOCIDE IN THE SAHARA AND THE CONNECTION MADE BY THE GROUP'S SPOKESPERSON (HANNAH ATKINS OF THE OKLAHOMA STATE LEGISLATURE) TO PRESIDENT CONFIDENTIAL

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CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS, AND (C) THE GROUP'S REPORTED PROMISE TO SPREAD SAHARAN PROPAGANDA THROUGHOUT THE US. LARAKI SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE THE GROUP TO COME HERE AND VISIT THE SAHARA, "SO IT COULD SEE THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN."

3. I EXPLAINED THAT I HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT THE DELEGATION, AND NOTED THAT MEMBERS OF STATE LEGISLATURES DID NOT NECESSARILY

REFLECT OFFICIAL USG POLICY, AND THAT, AS HE WELL KNEW FROM HIS OWN EXPERIENCE IN THE US, NATIONAL AND STATE LEGISLATORS EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS PUBLICLY QUITE INDPENDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. HE SAID THAT WHILE HE UNDERSTOOD THAT, MANY PEOPLE WOULD NOT. HE ASKED THAT THE FOREGOING BE SENT TO THE USG AND SAID THAT AMBASSADOR BOUTALEB IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE RECEIVING INSTRUCTIONS TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT THE GOM'S VIEWS ON THE DELEGATION'S ACTIVITIES AS THEY CONCERN MOROCCO.

4. REGARDING INVITATION TO DELEGATION TO VISIT MOROCCO, IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY AGREED THAT MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR BOUTALEB IN WASHINGTON WOULD APPROACH THE INSTITUTE OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA IF HIS FURTHER SOUNDINGS ON THE DELEGATION'S IMPORTANCE INDICATED THE INVITATION WOULD BE WARRANTED. IF BOUTALEB DECIDES TO MOVE, HE WILL ASK ESCUDERO IN NEA/AFN FOR TELEPHONE NUMBER AND OTHER DETAILS. ANDERSON

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